



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION IX  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105**

January 19, 2018

Mave A. Gasaway  
Davis Graham & Stubbs  
1550 17th Street, Suite 500  
Denver, CO 80202  
mave.gasaway@dgsllaw.com

Sent by email only

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request EPA-R9-2018-002819

Dear Ms. Gasaway:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act request regarding: certain records relating to the River Ranch property (Property) and the Leviathan Mine site (Mine). I am writing to request that you confirm the grant of an extension of the due date for EPA's response until Monday, January 29, 2018, as we discussed during a telephone call this morning.

This letter concerns the above-referenced Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, received by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA or Agency) on December 20, 2017, in which you requested:

Copies of records relating to all communications and correspondence concerning the Mine site and the Property between the Owners (including any Owner representative) and EPA personnel, including without limitation, Dana Barton, Ned Black, Lynda Deschambault, John Hillebrand, Peter Husby, Enrique Manzanilla, Gary Riley, Sophia Serda, Caleb Shaffer, Yolanda Sanchez, Lily Tavassolli (sic – all searches will be run with the correct spelling), and Joshua Wirtschafter from January 1, 2016, to the present.

EPA has worked diligently on searching for, appropriately identifying, and examining the records requested. Due to the large number of communications identified in the initial searches, we worked to refine the search to provide the requested communications and correspondence. I believe we have now worked out appropriate search terms, and the Electronic Discovery Assistance Team tells us they can process this request by the end of next week. I understand you have litigation deadlines at the end of the month, so we will do our best to review the documents and provide them by COB on Monday, January 29.

As you know, I informally provided a partial response on January 17, 2018, including the responsive messages in my email account. I appreciate your oral agreement to the revised deadline, and request you confirm this agreement in writing.

Finally, please note that at the time I am writing to you there appears to be a significant chance that government funding will lapse. The dates discussed above are contingent on the EPA remaining open through the next few weeks.

If you have any questions about this matter, please email me at [wirtschaft.joshua@epa.gov](mailto:wirtschaft.joshua@epa.gov) or call me at (415) 972-3912.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Josh Wirschafter', written in a cursive style.

Joshua Wirschafter  
Assistant Regional Counsel

cc: FOIA Office